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Application No. 10/529,659  
Attorney Docket No. A3-072 USAmendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A memory card connector (26) having an interior cavity (34) for receiving a memory card (36), comprising:

an insulating housing (28) having a rear terminal-mounting section (40) at the rear of the cavity, and at least one longitudinal side wall section (44) extending forwardly from one end of the rear section at one side of the cavity, the longitudinal side wall section including a distal end (82), the housing having a bottom surface (52) for mounting on a circuit board, and the longitudinal side wall section having a top surface (54) opposite said bottom surface;

a plurality of terminals (32) mounted on the rear terminal-mounting section of the housing and having contact portions (32b) for engage contacts on the memory card;

a metal shell (30) covering substantially the entire area defined by the insulating housing (28) and including a cover plate (70) overlying at least a portion of the longitudinal side wall section of the housing; and

an engaging structure (78) including an engaging projection (80) on the top surface (54) of said side wall section (44) of the housing extending into an engaging opening (84) in the cover plate (70) of the metal shell (30) to prevent relative movement therebetween in a plane generally parallel to the cover plate and top surface, wherein there being: and

further including clearance between the engaging projection and the engaging opening to avoid creating residual stresses in the housing.

2. (Currently Amended) The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said insulating housing (28) is generally L-shaped with said terminal-mounting section (40) extending transversely across the rear of the cavity (34), said engaging projection (80) being near the distal end (82) of the side wall section (44) and projecting from the top surface (54) thereof for engagement in an engaging opening (84) in the cover plate (70) of the metal shell

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3. (Currently Amended) The memory card connector of claim 1 wherein said insulating housing (28) is generally U-shaped with said terminal-mounting section (40) extending transversely across the rear of the cavity (34) and including two of said longitudinal side wall sections (42,44) extending forwardly from both opposite ends of the rear section, and including one of said engaging projections (80) near a distal end (82) of each side wall section and projecting from the top surface (54) thereof into a respective engaging opening (84) in the coverplate (70) of the metal shell.

4. (Currently Amended) The memory card connector of claim 1, including a metal securing nail (92) fixed to the insulating housing (28) and having a foot portion (92a) for securing to an appropriate mounting pad on the circuit board.

5. (Currently Amended) The memory card connector of claim 4 wherein said metal securing nail (92) is fixed to the housing adjacent said engaging structure (78).

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ memory card connector ~~of claim 5~~ having an interior cavity for receiving a memory card, comprising:  
an insulating housing having a rear terminal-mounting section at the rear of the cavity, and at least one longitudinal side wall section extending forwardly from one end of the rear section at one side of the cavity, the longitudinal side wall section including a distal end, the housing having a bottom surface for mounting on a circuit board, and the longitudinal side wall section having a top surface opposite said bottom surface;  
a plurality of terminals mounted on the rear terminal-mounting section of the housing and having contact portions for engage contacts on the memory card;  
a metal shell covering substantially the entire area defined by the insulating housing and including a cover plate overlying at least a portion of the longitudinal side wall section of the housing;  
an engaging structure including an engaging projection on the top surface of said side wall section of the housing extending into an engaging opening in the cover plate of the metal shell to prevent relative movement therebetween in a plane generally parallel to the cover plate

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and top surface, wherein there being clearance between the engaging projection and the engaging opening to avoid creating residual stresses in the housing;

a metal securing nail fixed to the insulating housing and having a foot portion for securing to an appropriate mounting pad on the circuit board, said metal securing nail being fixed to the housing adjacent said engaging structure; and

wherein said metal shell (30) includes a grounding tab (94) formed into engagement with said metal securing nail (92) to provide a ground potential.

7. (New) A memory card connector having an interior cavity for receiving a memory card, comprising:

an insulating housing having a rear terminal-mounting section at the rear of the cavity, and at least one longitudinal side wall section extending forwardly from one end of the rear section at one side of the cavity, the longitudinal side wall section including a distal end, the housing having a bottom surface for mounting on a circuit board, and the longitudinal side wall section having a top surface opposite said bottom surface;

a plurality of terminals mounted on the rear terminal-mounting section of the housing and having contact portions for engage contacts on the memory card;

a metal shell covering substantially the entire area defined by the insulating housing and including a cover plate overlying at least a portion of the longitudinal side wall section of the housing;

an engaging structure including an engaging projection on the top surface of said side wall section of the housing extending into an engaging opening in the cover plate of the metal shell to prevent relative movement therebetween in a plane generally parallel to the cover plate and top surface, wherein there being clearance between the engaging projection and the engaging opening to avoid creating residual stresses in the housing;

a metal securing nail fixed to the insulating housing and having a foot portion for securing to an appropriate mounting pad on the circuit board; and

wherein said metal shell includes a grounding tab formed into engagement with said metal securing nail to provide a ground potential.

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8. (New) A memory card connector having an interior cavity for receiving a memory card, comprising:

an insulating housing having a rear terminal-mounting section at the rear of the cavity, and at least one longitudinal side wall section extending forwardly from one end of the rear section at one side of the cavity, the longitudinal side wall section including a distal end, the housing having a bottom surface for mounting on a circuit board, and the longitudinal side wall section having a top surface opposite said bottom surface;

a plurality of terminals mounted on the rear terminal-mounting section of the housing and having contact portions for engage contacts on the memory card;

a metal shell covering substantially the entire area defined by the insulating housing and including a cover plate overlying at least a portion of the longitudinal side wall section of the housing;

an engaging structure including an engaging projection on the top surface of said side wall section of the housing extending into an engaging opening in the cover plate of the metal shell to prevent relative movement therebetween in a plane generally parallel to the cover plate and top surface, wherein there being clearance between the engaging projection and the engaging opening to avoid creating residual stresses in the housing;

a metal securing nail fixed to the insulating housing; and

said metal shell includes a grounding tab formed into engagement with said metal securing nail to provide a ground potential.